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Dan Smith Letter

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803 South Second Avenue
Rock Rapids, Iowa 51246
April 29, 1974

Dr. Theora England
Northwestern College
Orange City, Iowa 51041

Dear Dr. England:

As I look back over my activities at Northwestern College, the experiences that I had in Drama and Choral Reading would have to be considered among the most worthwhile. It was not until my senior year that I joined a play cast and the Choral Readers, but I think you would agree with me that I chose 1967 as a good year to get involved.

Remember, just seven years ago tonight the production of Death of a Salesman was given, and I can still see and hear that play clearly in my mind as I'm sure you can too. I particularly recall sharing with you a special kind of feeling for poor Willy Loman, even with all his empty dreams and misplaced values. I must admit that after playing the role of Charley, there still exists in my mind one question -- "Who is Red Orange?"

Then there was the wonderful spring tour of the Choral Readers to Kentucky. The secular and sacred pieces that we presented to the people there and along the way really did bear out our message that "...we, too believe and so we speak." I shall always feel a real closeness to those with whom I shared that opportunity.

Just as I am sure that words cannot express all that you have given to Northwestern, I know that I cannot express all that you have given to me. You have taught me that through drama and interpretive reading, we must learn to see and feel that we are a part of others--that others are not unlike us--that we must cherish all others in order to like ourselves. Perhaps, as the immortal bard tells us, we should "Look to the players; see them well bestro'd: They are the abstract and brief chroniclers of the times."

God's richest blessing to you in the years ahead.

Love,

Carl Smith